ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact: Jan Rumble, Area Shellfish Management Biologist Elisa Russ, Shellfish Management Biologist Homer Area Office 3298 Douglas Place Homer, Alaska 99603

Phone: (907) 235-8191 Date Issued: 04/5/2013

Fax: (907) 235-2448

FISHERY UPDATE NORTH GULF COAST PERSONAL USE SHRIMP FISHERY OPENS

The Personal Use season for shrimp fishing with pot gear in North Gulf Coast (NGC) area waters will be open April 15 through September 15. NGC personal use shrimp fishing area includes waters from Gore Point to Cape Fairfield (Figure 1).

Only Alaska residents may participate in this fishery. A permit is required prior to harvesting shrimp. Permits are free and will be available beginning April 5 during regular business hours at ADF&G offices in Anchorage, Soldotna, Homer, and at the Fish House in Seward. A person must possess or be named as a household member on a permit to participate in the fishery and the permit must be in possession of the person fishing for shrimp. Harvest information must be entered on the permit catch log prior to leaving the fishing grounds. All North Gulf Coast shrimp harvest record cards must be returned to the Homer office by September 30, 2013. Participants in this fishery who do not return their permits risk losing participation privileges in the fishery the following year.

Legal gear for the fishery is five pots per person and a maximum of five pots per vessel. Each shrimp pot must meet the mesh and biodegradable escape mechanism requirements as described on the permit.

-continued-

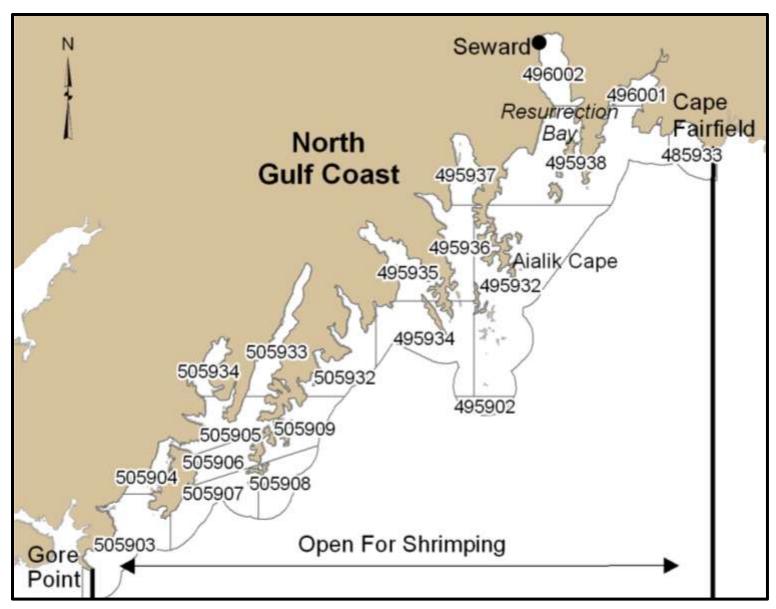


Figure 1. Open waters and reporting areas for the 2013 North Gulf Coast personal use shrimp fishery.